

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current
scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

1
F769Me

per. ed.

ry

MENDOCINO NATIONAL FOREST CALIFORNIA

LIBRARY
RECEIVED

☆ JUL 20 1937 ☆

U. S. Department of Agriculture



F-172740

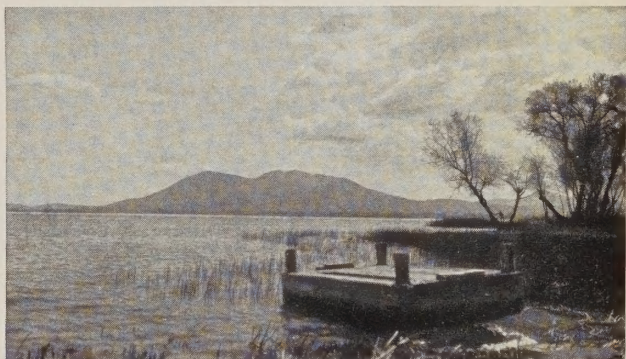
Columbian black-tail deer on the Mendocino National Forest

Revised 1936

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
CALIFORNIA REGION

MENDOCINO NATIONAL FOREST CALIFORNIA

The Mendocino National Forest extends for 70 miles along the summit of the Coast Range, from the Mad River-Eel River divide on the north to Bartlett Mountain in the south, and embraces portions of Trinity, Tehama, Glenn, Colusa, Lake, and Mendocino Counties. The eastern and southern portions of the forest drain into the Sacramento River; the western portion includes the headwaters of the Middle and South Forks of Eel River, which flow into the Pacific Ocean. The area of the forest is 1,062,375 acres, of which 829,830 acres is Government land and 232,545 acres private land.



F-191449

Clear Lake and Mount Konocti.—A fine view of this magnificent body of water, just south of the Mendocino Forest, is obtained from the Pinnacle Rock Fire Lookout

The lower elevations of the forest are covered with dense stands of chamiso brush, with here and there open areas of grass land, locally known as glades. The chamiso type extends to an elevation of from 3,500 to 4,000 feet. Above this are fine stands of pine and fir. Some of the higher elevations are rather open, with extensive areas of scrub white oak which are characteristic of this region. The main summit of the Coast Range averages 5,000 feet in altitude. There are many peaks over 6,000 feet, and the highest peak in the forest is South Yolla Bolly, 8,003 feet.

The climate of the north Coast Range is somewhat warmer than that of the High Sierra, but the summer nights are comfortably cool. In the western portion of the forest the heat of the day is often tempered by winds from the Pacific, and occasionally there are fogs. There are fewer electrical storms than in the Sierra or farther north.

ADMINISTRATION

The Mendocino National Forest is in charge of a forest supervisor who has his headquarters at Alder Springs, Glenn County, from June 1 to October 15,

and in the Federal Building at Willows during the rest of the year. The forest is divided into four ranger districts, each in charge of a district ranger stationed in or near the towns of Paskenta, Stonyford, Upper Lake, and Covelo, respectively. During the summer fire season a force of forest guards is stationed throughout the forest. All forest officers will gladly issue campfire permits and give information about the region in which they are located.

MAIN ROUTES OF TRAVEL

The Mendocino Forest is reached from the Pacific Highway in the Sacramento Valley by roads leading west from Williams, Maxwell, Willows, Orland, and Corning; and on the west from the Redwood highway over roads leading east from Hopland, Ukiah, Willits, and Laytonville.



F-178364

View south over the Mendocino Forest from the summit of Alder Springs—Black Butte Road

By railroad and stage, this forest is reached—

On the east by the Southern Pacific Railroad, with auto-stage connections from Williams to Bartlett Springs; from Maxwell to Stonyford; from Willows to Elk Creek, Stonyford, and Alder Springs; and from Corning to Paskenta.

On the west side by the Northwestern Pacific Railroad, with auto-stage connections from Hopland to Lakeport and Bartlett Springs; from Ukiah to Upper Lake and Bartlett Springs; from Ukiah to Potter Valley and Gravelly Valley; and from Dos Rios to Covelo.

A forest highway, open throughout the year, crosses the south end of the forest over Bartlett Mountain. It leaves the Ukiah-Tahoe State Highway north of Lucerne and crossing Bartlett Mountain at an elevation of 4,000 feet connects with the State Highway again west of Williams on the western edge of the Sacramento Valley. This is a very picturesque route from which may be had wonderful views of the surrounding mountains and of Clear Lake, a magnificent body of water exceeding 75 square miles in area. The



F-208270

Forest roads lead into many picturesque parts of the Coast Range

traveler on this highway also passes several mineral springs for which Lake County is famous.

Another through road crosses the forest from Covelo on the west to Sacramento Valley points on the east. This road forks at the summit of the Coast Range, in Mendocino Pass, the north branch leading to Paskenta over Log Spring Ridge, and the south branch following the summit for 20 miles, then descending to Alder Springs and Elk Creek. The former road passes within a mile of Anthony Peak lookout station (elevation 6,963 feet), which is a primary fire lookout point for the forest, and presents a wonderful panorama. That portion of the road through Mendocino Pass is usually not open for travel until July 1. The roads as far as Alder Springs and to Log Springs are in good shape by May 1.



F-175931

South Yolla Bolly Mountain (8,003 feet) in July

(3)

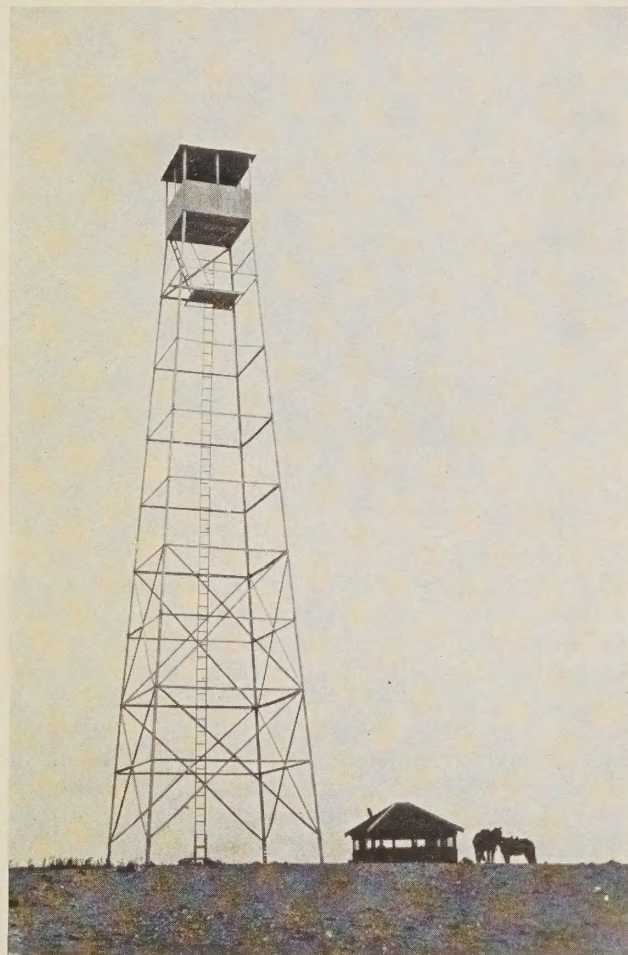
Gravelly Valley and Lake Pillsbury are accessible by roads from Upper Lake and Potter Valley. The road from Upper Lake, over Elk Mountain, passes through a fine stand of timber and offers a delightful trip.

A road on a good grade up Little Stony Creek in Colusa County gives access to the timbered region near Goat Mountain, where are found many excellent camping and summer home sites.

Several other roads extend into the forest, namely, the Ball Rock Road from Paskenta to Ball Rock, with heavy grades; the Ivory Mill Road from Elk Creek to Bear Creek via Sheetiron Mountain; and the Twin Valleys Road from Bartlett Springs.

FOREST PROTECTION

Forest visitors are usually more interested in the methods employed in preventing and suppressing forest fires than in any other activity of the Forest



F-171626

Sheetiron Mountain Fire Lookout.—The observation tower of this lookout is 60 feet high

(4)

Service. In the Mendocino Forest during the summer season officers are on duty at six primary lookouts, located on high peaks. These men occupy lookout houses or towers with windows permitting vision on all sides, and are supplied with maps and instruments for determining the location of fires. They remain at their stations throughout the fire season. The main fire lookouts are Hammerhorn and Goat Mountains, Mt. Sanhedrin, Valley View, Hunter Point, and Anthony Peak. Forest travelers are invited to visit these lookout stations, both to see the surrounding country and to obtain first-hand information as to the methods used in discovering and locating fires. In addition to these lookouts there are 24 lookout-firemen stationed throughout the forest, whose duty it is to detect and suppress any fires that occur. Six additional men are located in areas of high hazard to prevent and suppress fires. This whole organization, together with the supervisor's headquarters and the stations of the district rangers, is connected by a Forest Service telephone system so that when a fire is discovered the nearest forest officers can be sent to it at once. Fire-fighting tools and equipment are kept



F-229887

The French Ridge fire.—Many large and destructive fires are started in the Mendocino Forest each year through the carelessness of sportsmen and campers

on hand at all stations. If a fire becomes too large for the forest officers to handle alone, additional assistance is obtained from the nearest source.

Lightning fires cannot be prevented, but a majority of the fires in the Mendocino Forest are man-caused and are, therefore, preventable. Many of these fires occur through carelessness with burning matches and tobacco, as well as from unextinguished campfires. Every good citizen is a cooperator with the State and Federal Government in preventing forest fires and has a large opportunity to assist in this work by being careful with fire himself and by putting out any small fires he may find, as well as by promptly reporting large fires to the forest protection organization from the nearest telephone.

FOREST RESOURCES

WATER

The conservation of water for irrigation and for hydroelectric power is one of the chief functions of the Mendocino Forest. The protection of the watershed of Stony Creek, from which the Orland Reclamation Project obtains its water supply for irrigation,



F-172656

Gathering beef cattle grazed on the Mendocino Forest

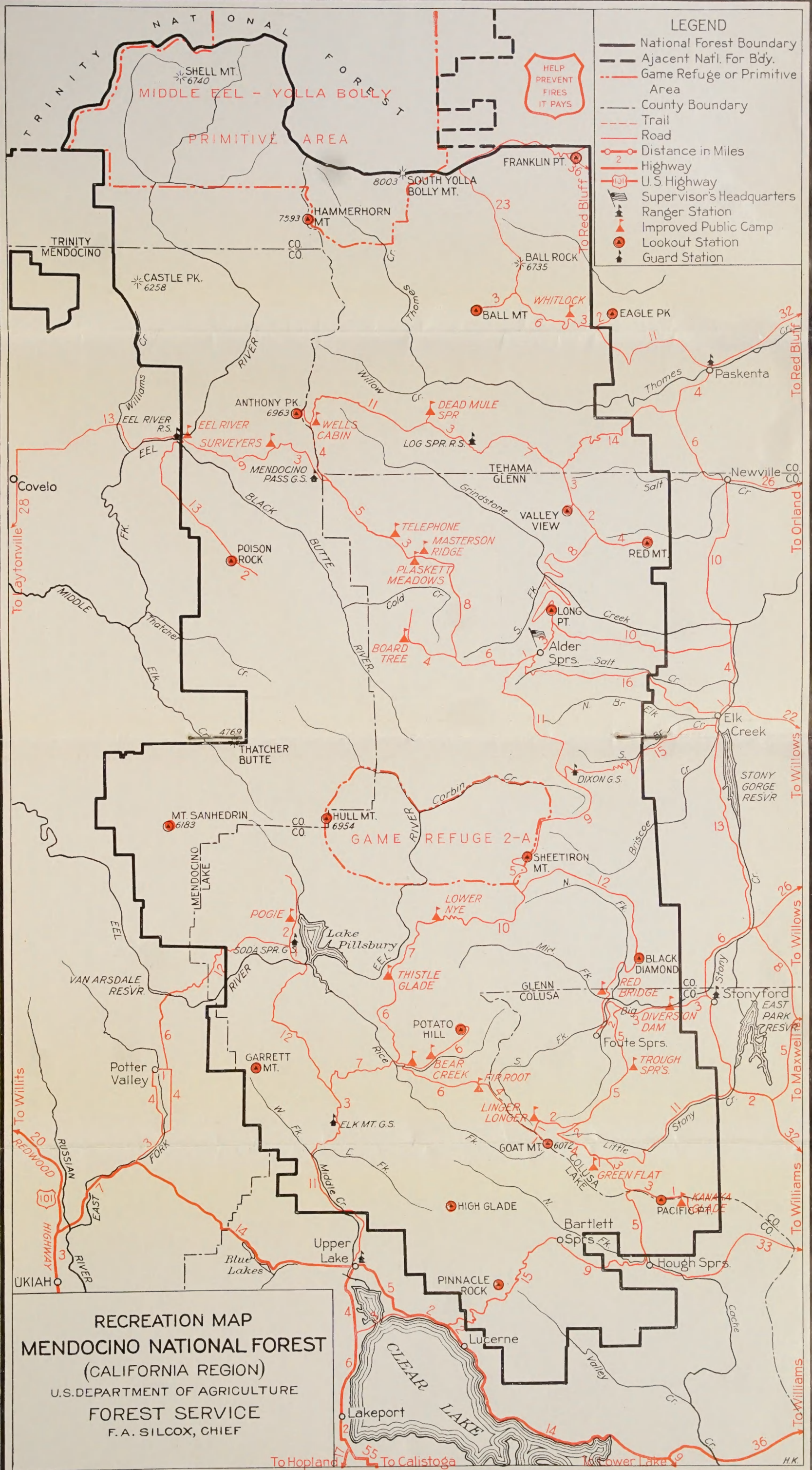
was one of the important reasons for the creation of this national forest. Brush covers a large portion of the lower slopes of the watershed, but these brush stands, if protected from fire, effect the same results as a stand of timber in the prevention of erosion and in regulating the run-off. For this reason, as well as for the protection of the intermingled and adjacent timber, the prevention of fires within the brush fields is of vital importance.

In the watershed of the South Eel River, Lake Pillsbury has been created by the construction of an artificial dam. The waters of this lake are used for the development of hydroelectric power at a plant in Potter Valley.

GRAZING

Within and adjacent to the national forest are many ranches. These depend upon the raising of livestock to market the products of their lands to the best advantage. The forage on the forest ranges is grazed under permit by 5,000 cattle and 15,000 sheep and goats from these ranches. This not only assists the stock owners by furnishing summer range at a reasonable fee, but also utilizes the annual growth of grass and weeds for the production of beef, mutton, and wool; whereas if it went unused it would create an additional fire hazard during the summer months after the vegetation becomes dry and inflammable.

Twenty-five percent of the revenue received by the Government from grazing fees, as well as from timber sales, special uses, and other resources of the national



LEGEND

- National Forest Boundary
- - - Adjacent Natl. For Bdy.
- - - Game Refuge or Primitive Area
- - - County Boundary
- - - Trail
- Road
- Distance in Miles
- 2 Highway
- 101 U.S. Highway
- Supervisor's Headquarters
- Ranger Station
- Improved Public Camp
- Lookout Station
- Guard Station

RECREATION MAP

MENDOCINO NATIONAL FOREST
(CALIFORNIA REGION)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
F.A. SILCOX, CHIEF

forests, is returned to the counties in which these forests are located, for use as school and road funds, and an additional 10 percent is expended by the Forest Service on roads and trails within these counties.



F-175530

Sheep grazing in a mountain meadow

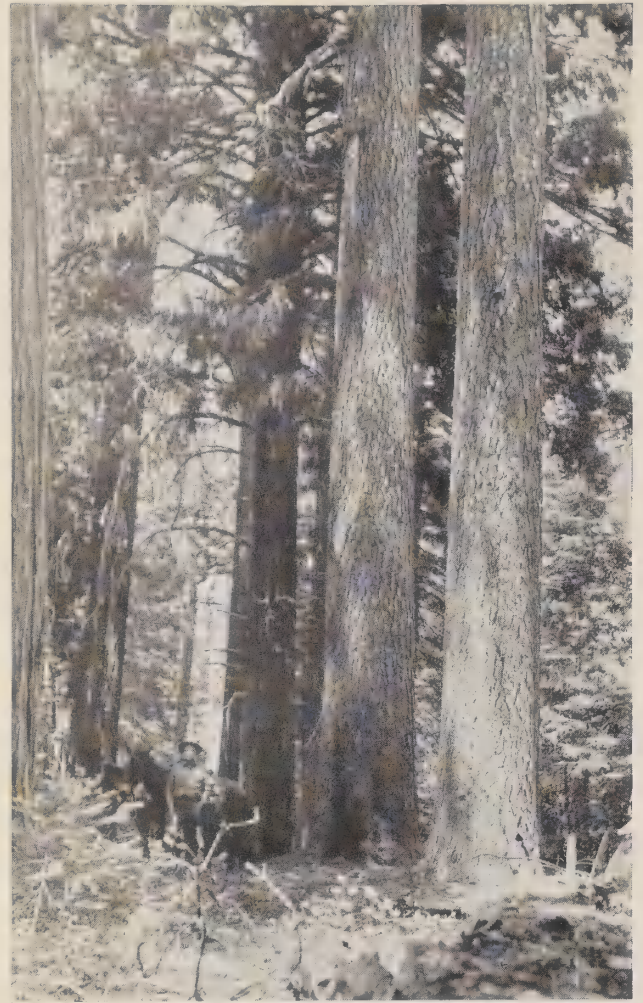
TIMBER

The stand of pine and fir timber on Government lands within the Mendocino National Forest is estimated at 4 billion feet, and that on private lands at 2 billion feet. The mature Government timber is available for sale under competitive bids. When a sale is made, the trees to be removed are marked by experienced forest officers. In the cutting and logging care must be exercised by the operator so that as little damage as possible is done to the remaining unmarked trees and young growth left to furnish the next timber crop. On account of the lack of suitable transportation facilities within this forest there have so far been no large sales of Government timber.

RECREATION

HUNTING

The Mendocino Forest is the best-stocked deer region in California, and is consequently a favorite with sportsmen. The deer in this forest are the Columbian black-tail, which abound in the brush as well as in the timber belt. In the winter the deer congregate in large numbers in the glades, and at that time, or in early spring, the sight of herd after herd is a source of wonder and delight to visitors and offers exceptional opportunities to those who wish to hunt with a camera. During the hunting season the bucks seek the protection of denser cover, but does and fawns are commonly



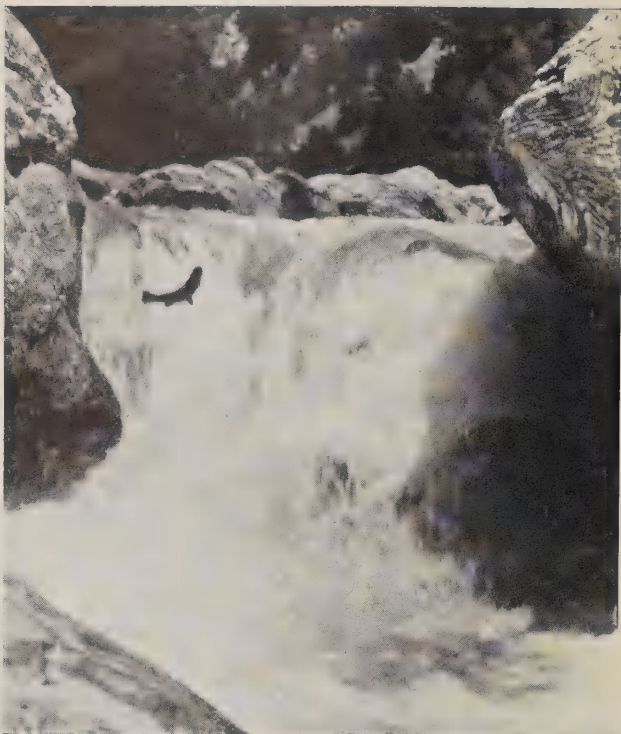
Fine stands of virgin timber are found on the Mendocino Forest

seen. An experienced hunter has little difficulty in getting his limit of bucks.

Quail hunting is only fair within the forest. Valley quail and dove hunting is best in the foothill country around the edge of the forest.

FISHING

Trout fishing is good in Thomes, Grindstone, and Stony Creeks, in the eastern portion of the forest, and in South Eel River and its tributaries in Lake County. The best fishing in Thomes and Grindstone Creeks is reached from the Log Spring Road, accessible by automobile from Corning, Orland, and Willows. From this road a trip of about 4 miles by trail is necessary to reach either of these streams. For fishing in Stony Creek and its tributaries, the Diversion Dam and Red Bridge, west of Stonyford and accessible by automobile, are favorite camping sites; or those who prefer



F-204660

A steelhead trout leaping up the falls of the Middle Fork of Eel River

the conveniences of a hotel may find accommodations at Stonyford.

Fishing in South Eel River and its tributaries may be reached by automobile from Upper Lake and Potter Valley.

That part of the Middle Fork of Eel River within the forest is in a class by itself as regards fishing possibilities. This stream, or any of its larger tributaries, will yield the limit of trout with little exertion on the part of the fisherman, and in addition there is the grand sport of steelhead fishing. These monster trout abound in the deep pools of the main stream. They average



F-153164

Off for a trip into the mountains—Trail up Middle Fork of Eel River, through Hell Hole Canyon

close to 8 pounds, and fish up to 25 pounds in weight have been taken. For miles along the river they can be seen in the crystal-clear water in almost unbelievable numbers, as many as 500 having been counted in a single pool at one time. This region is best reached by automobile to Covelo or the public camp on the Middle Fork of Eel River, thence by a pack trip over the picturesque Northfork Trail, which passes through the scenic Hell Hole Canyon.

CAMPING

Camping places are numerous along all streams and roads in the forest. Six public campgrounds improved with camping and sanitary conveniences have been established as follows:

Middle Fork of Eel River—At the junction of Black Butte River with the Middle Fork of Eel River on the Covelo-Willows road. This is a good location in which to establish camp, and leave the women and children in comfort while the men make pack trips into the back country for hunting and fishing.

Plaskett Meadows—On the Covelo-Willows road near Black Butte. This is one of the most attractive camping grounds on the forest. Good hunting country. Elevation 6,000 feet.

Diversion Dam—On Big Stony Creek, west of Stonyford. Improved by the board of supervisors of Colusa County in cooperation with the Forest Service. A favorite camp for fishermen.

Red Bridge—At the forks of Stony Creek about 8 miles upstream from the Diversion Dam Camp. Very popular with anglers.



Lake Pillsbury, Mendocino National Forest

Bear Creek—At the foot of Snow Mountain, in Lake County, on the road to Snow Mountain Ranch. Two public campgrounds have been developed in this region. Good fishing early in the season and a fine deer country.

Linger Longer—At the summit on the road leading up Little Stony Creek. Good deer country. Fine view from Goat Mountain. Fire lookout nearby.

The following is a list of additional camping sites, accessible by automobile, most of which are without improvements:

- Alder Flat, west of Elk Creek, on Sanhedrin Road to Alder Springs.
- Ball Rock, on Ball Rock Road from Paskenta (steep grades).
- Board Tree, on spur of Elk Creek-Covelo Road. Cool summer camp in good deer country.
- Buck Spring, on Paskenta-Covelo Road.
- Cedar Camp, on Little Stony Creek Road.
- Camp Welcome, on Upper Lake-Gravelly Valley Road.
- Cold Creek, on Elk Creek-Covelo Road.
- Cold Spring, west of Alder Springs, on Bearwallow Road.
- Del Harleson, on a spur leading off the Paskenta-Covelo Road.
- Government Flat, on Paskenta-Covelo Road.
- Jolly Camp, west of Alder Springs on Bearwallow Road.
- Log Spring, on Covelo-Paskenta Road.
- The basin on Bearwallow Road.
- Slapjack, west of Alder Springs on Elk Creek-Covello Road.
- Thistle Glade, on Skeleton Glade Road. Good fishing and hunting camp.
- Wells Cabin, on Paskenta-Covelo Road. Good fishing and hunting camp on summit of the Coast Range.
- White Pebble Spring, on Upper Lake-Gravelly Valley Road.
- Whitlock Camp, on Ball Rock Road.

MIDDLE EEL-YOLLA BOLLY PRIMITIVE AREA

In order to insure the preservation, in their primitive condition, of typical mountain and forest areas in the national forests of California, and to guard against their development and exploitation by modernized recreational features, the Forest Service has set aside some 203,000 acres of Government land at the head of the Middle Fork of Eel River in the Mendocino Forest and in the Yolla Bolly Mountain region in the Trinity Forest as the Middle Eel-Yolla Bolly Primitive Area, for the use and enjoyment of all the people. This area will be preserved in a "wild" state in the sense that it will not be developed by road building, or opened to any form of permanent recreational occupancy under permit. The grazing of livestock will, however, be permitted, and in years to come, if economic conditions warrant, some timber cutting and water power development may be allowed.

This primitive area lies in a region of rolling mountains, and scattered pine and fir interspersed with open

glades and meadows. The country is noted for its good fishing and hunting and is readily accessible by Government trails. South Yolla Bolly Mountain (Mount Linn), 8,003 feet on the boundary between the Mendocino and Trinity Forests, is the highest peak in the area.

SUMMER HOME SITES

Many forest visitors desire to secure sites where they can build summer homes so as to have comfortable quarters to which they may return each season. Several tracts for this purpose have been laid out by the Forest Service in the timbered region at the head of Little Stony Creek in Colusa County, on Bear Creek in Lake County, and at Plaskett Meadows in Glenn County. Further tracts will be subdivided elsewhere as the demand arises. These summer-home lots are leased at an annual rental of from \$15 to \$25. Application for lots may be made to the nearest district ranger or to the forest supervisor's office.

HOTELS AND RESORTS

The following hotels and resorts within or immediately adjacent to the forest may be reached by automobile:

- Alder Springs, via Elk Creek.
- Bartlett Springs, via Williams or Upper Lake.
- Clear Lake Lodge, via Upper Lake.
- Hartstone's Log Cabin Inn, via Potter Valley.
- Riffe Hotel, Upper Lake.
- Ham's Station, Middle Fork of Eel River, via Covelo.
- Hill and Redwine Camp, via Covelo.
- Government Flat, via Paskenta or Covelo.

OUTFITTING POINTS

General supplies and gasoline may be purchased at the places listed below, and garage service is available at points marked by an asterisk:

- Paskenta, Tehama County.
- Alder Springs, Glenn County.
- *Elk Creek, Glenn County.
- Stonyford, Colusa County.
- Hough Springs, Lake County.
- Bartlett Springs, Lake County.
- *Upper Lake, Lake County.
- *Potter Valley, Mendocino County.
- *Covelo, Mendocino County.
- Ham's Station, Middle Fork Eel River.
- Government Flat, Tehama County.

PACK TRIPS

Trips into the more remote parts of the forest must necessarily be made by trail. Saddle and pack stock for this purpose can be obtained at the following points:

Paskenta, Tehama County.
Alder Springs, Glenn County.
Stonyford, Colusa County.
Potter Valley, Mendocino County.
Covelo, Mendocino County.
Government Flat, Tehama County.

WHAT TO DO WHEN LOST

A clear head will find itself. If every one remembered this there would be fewer reports of persons lost in the mountains and forests. Loss of mental control is more serious than lack of food, water, or clothing. The man who keeps his head has the best chance to come through in safety.

The following helpful rules are worth remembering:

1. Stop, sit down, and try to figure out where you are. Use your head, not your legs.
2. If caught by night, fog, or storm, stop at once and make camp in a sheltered spot. Build a fire in a safe place. Gather plenty of dry fuel.
3. Don't wander about. Travel only downhill. Follow water courses or ridges.
4. If injured, choose a cleared spot on a promontory and make a signal smoke. The Forest Service fire lookouts or the observers in airplanes may see your smoke.
5. Don't yell, don't run, don't worry, and DON'T QUIT.

A word from the forest rangers to the new camper, hiker, or vacationist:

It is better to carry a clear head on your shoulders than a big pack on your back. Yet in going alone into the mountains it is well to go prepared for any emergency. A fish line and a few hooks, matches in a waterproof box, a compass, a little concentrated food, and a strong knife should always be carried. A gun may help as a signal, seldom for obtaining food. Above all, keep cool, and the chances are you will come out of the woods on your own feet.

A moment of care may save months of regret

GOOD MANNERS IN THE FOREST

A good sportsman, camper, or tourist, when he goes into the national forests—

First obtains a camp fire permit.
Carries a shovel and ax.
Smokes only in camp.
Puts his fire dead out with water.
Leaves a clean and sanitary camp.
Observes the State fish and game laws.
Cooperates with the forest rangers in reporting and suppressing fires.
Preaches what he practices.

DO YOU?



If you don't know—ask the U. S. Forest Ranger

1

U.S. Forest service. California region.
Mendocino national forest, Calif.
1936.

F769Me

Reg.

NATIONAL FOREST VISITORS

Free Public Use of National Forests is Invited

Visitors to the Mendocino National Forest are required to observe the following rules:

1. A campfire permit must be secured before building any fire, including fire in stoves burning wood, kerosene, or gasoline, on national forest land. The nearest forest officer will issue a permit to you without charge.

2. Every camping party in the national forests must be equipped with a shovel and an ax per vehicle or pack train. Shovel, with blade at least 8 inches wide and an overall length of 36 inches; ax, not less than 26 inches long overall, with head weighing 2 pounds or more, both of these tools to be in serviceable condition. All camping parties will be expected to obtain these tools before entering the national forests.

3. During the fire season smoking is prohibited in the national forests except in camps, at places of habitation, and in special posted areas where smoking is allowed. Smokers must be careful to extinguish their lighted matches, cigars and cigarettes, and pipe heels. Watch for "No Smoking" and "Smoke Here" signs.

4. In periods of high fire hazard, camping and camp or picnic fires may be restricted to posted campgrounds, and part or all of the national forests may be closed to public use and travel. Watch for "Closed Area" signs.

5. Build small fires. Clear an area, down to mineral soil, not less than 10 feet in diameter before starting a fire.

6. Never leave a fire without totally extinguishing it with a plentiful supply of water.

7. Keep your camp clean. Where garbage pits and incinerators are not provided, burn or bury all garbage and refuse.

8. Do not pollute the springs, streams, or lakes by insanitary acts.

9. Observe the State fish and game laws.

10. Drive carefully on mountain roads.

**Your cooperation in the enforcement of
these regulations is requested**